

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A tool for facilitating breakage of the neck of a glass vial ~~phial~~ for pharmaceuticals and the like and protecting the operator from injury to the fingers, the tool comprising; characterized in that it consists of

a strip of cardboard [[with]] defining a hole in a middle center position thereof for
5 receiving the neck of the glass vial, said strip having [[and]] at least one weakening weakened
area defining [[for]] a transverse fold [[((5))]] coinciding with said hole, said strip being folded
along said transverse fold such that two leaves are formed, one leaf being opposite another leaf
when said strip is folded along said transverse fold, each leaf being arranged adjacent to the
neck of the glass vial when said glass vial is inserted into said hole, each leaf defining finger
10 engaging portions, each leaf defining a means for receiving a force in an area of said finger
engaging portions such that the neck of the glass vial breaks so as to delimit two facing leaves;
the hole being suitable for introduction therein of the neck of the phial and the leaves being able
to be arranged alongside the neck of the phial and receive the action of the fingers in order to
break said neck.

2. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) Tool according to claim 1, characterized in
that wherein the two leaves are joined together at the ends opposite to the hole.

3. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) Tool according to claim 1, characterized in
that wherein each of the two leaves has a first weakening for a transverse fold at a small

distance from said hole for adaptation to the shape of the ~~[[phial]]~~ vial.

4. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) Tool according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ each of the two leaves also has a second further weakening for a transverse fold at a greater distance from said hole than said first weakening for a transverse fold, so as to allow inward bending of the cardboard between the two leaves in order to adapt the tool to the
5 shoulder of the ~~[[phial]]~~ vial and to the neck thereof.

5. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) Tool according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ the two leaves have ~~an impression, i.e.~~ a longitudinal ribbing which is shaped and convex outwards from said hole so as to create a partial housing for the neck of the ~~[[phial]]~~ vial.

6. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) Tool according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ at least one of the leaves has a window for visual inspection of a reference mark provided on the neck of the ~~[[phial]]~~ vial for indicating the direction of the pressure to be exerted for breakage of the ~~[[phial]]~~ vial neck.

7. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) A tool for facilitating breakage of the neck of a glass ~~[[phial]]~~ vial for pharmaceuticals ~~and the like~~, the tool comprising: ~~characterized in that it consists (Fig. 10) of~~

a cardboard element with at least one pre-folded fold line defining a first finger receiving

5 section and a second finger receiving section, said first finger receiving section being
symmetrical to said second finger receiving section, said cardboard element defining a glass vial
receiving hole for receiving the neck of a glass vial, said pre-folded fold line being located on
each side of said glass vial receiving hole in a direction transverse of a width of said cardboard
element, said cardboard element being folded to a folded position such that said first finger
10 receiving section is opposite said second finger receiving section, said first finger receiving
section and said second finger receiving section being adjacent to the neck of the glass vial
when said cardboard element is in said folded position, said first finger receiving section and
said second finger receiving section defining an abutment, whereby said abutment receives a
force for breaking the neck of the glass vial ~~weakening for a book-like fold for delimiting two~~
15 ~~facing leaves having recesses able to form a seat for the neck of the phial; the two leaves being~~
~~able to be arranged alongside the neck of the phial and receive the action of the fingers in order~~
~~to break said neck.~~

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A set of tools formed~~ tool according to claim 1, wherein one
strip of cardboard is integrally connected to another strip of cardboard along pre-cut lines to
form an integral strip of detachable ~~made from cardboard material which is punched with~~
5 ~~pre-cut lines defining individual strip-like tools, each tool being detachable from another tool~~
such that one detached tool is used to remove the neck of the glass vial in a detached state to

be detached easily one after another for use.

10. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) A ~~set of tools~~ tool according to claim 9, characterized in that it is made of cardboard material comprising wherein said integral strip of cardboard comprises a surface in excess of that forming the ~~strip-like~~ strip of tools to be detached, which excess surface is used for printing information relating to use of the tools
5 and/or information of an advertising nature and/or relating to the product ~~[[-]]~~ in particular pharmaceutical product ~~[[-]]~~ contained in the ~~[[phial]]~~ vial of a packaging which also contains said ~~set of tools~~ strip of tools.

11. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) A ~~set of tools~~ tool according to claim 10, characterized in that wherein the surface in excess of the ~~[[set]]~~ strip of tools from which the ~~strip-like~~ strip of tools are obtained forms two zones which can be folded over so as to form a three-layer assembly (Figs. 20, 21).

12. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) A ~~set of tools~~ tool according to claim 9, characterized in that it wherein said strip of tools is formed as an appendage of a punched element for the formation of a box intended to form the packaging for which said ~~[[set]]~~ strip of tools is intended, said appendage being handled with the operations for forming the box,
5 being hinged by means of a folding line with a component of said punched element.

13. (Currently Amended) A box for containing glass ~~phials~~ vials with a neck to be broken, made with a punched element forming the walls of the box partly delimited by folding lines, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ the box comprising:

an appendage protruding from ~~one of the portions~~ forming the box, in particular from one of the side walls of the box, ~~so as to form said appendage forming a~~ [[set]] strip of strip-like tools, one tool being connected to another tool along a pre-cut line in an attached state, one of said tools being detached from another of said tools in a detached state, each tool having a hole for receiving a neck of a glass vial and two finger engaging sections, each tool having a transverse fold extending a width of said tool, one of said tools being folded along said transverse fold in said detached state such that the neck of the glass vial is perpendicular to said transverse fold when said glass vial is inserted into said hole ~~which can be detached individually from pre-cut lines.~~

14. (Currently Amended) A box according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said appendage is folded over at least twice and ~~may be optionally~~ is glued in zones of the adjacent surfaces.

15. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) A box according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein one of the two front walls is formed as a contour of a lid defined by a cut or pre-cut line and by a folding line forming a hinge.

16. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) A box according to claim 13, characterized in that wherein said appendage forms at least one of the closing flaps of the box with which said appendage is hinged.

17. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) A box according to claim 16, characterized in that wherein said appendage is engaged, against one of the front walls of the box, with the material of the hole of one of the strips which is defined by a pre-cut line, said material being glued to said front wall.

18. (Withdrawn, but Currently Amended) A box according to claim 16, characterized in that wherein said appendage forms laterally both the closing flaps of the box.

19. (New) A box for containing glass vials with a neck to be broken, the box comprising:

a punched piece of cardboard having pre-folded lines defining two front walls, two side walls, two closing flaps, an appendage and a strip of detachable tools, said piece of cardboard being folded such that said appendage is connected to one of said side walls and one of said front walls is opposite another front wall and one of said closing flaps is opposite another of said closing flaps and one of said side walls is opposite another of said side walls to form a box structure, whereby said strip of detachable tools is located within said box structure, said strip of detachable tools being detached one by one from said box structure in a detached state for

10 removing a neck of a glass vial, each detachable tool having a hole for receiving a neck of a glass vial and two finger engaging sections, each detachable tool having a transverse fold extending a width of said tool, one of said tools being folded along said transverse fold in said detached state such that the neck of the glass vial is perpendicular to said transverse fold when said glass vial is inserted into said hole.

20. (New) A box in according to claim 19, wherein each finger engaging section defines an abutment, whereby said abutment receives a force from an external source for breaking the neck of the glass vial when one of said detachable tools is in said detached state.

21. (New) A box in according to claim 20, wherein one of said front walls is formed as a lid, said detachable strip of tools being folded under said lid such that said detachable strip of tools unfolds when said lid is lifted.